

## **Marine Aquarium Council**

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The Marine Aquarium Council (MAC) is an international, not-for-profit organization that brings marine aquarium animal collectors, exporters, importers and retailers together with aquarium keepers, public aquariums, conservation organizations and government agencies. MAC's mission is to conserve coral reefs and other marine ecosystems by creating standards and certification for those engaged in the collection and care of ornamental marine life from reef to aquarium. MAC Communication Director Synthia Spalding will speak about:

- The MAC Certification process
- Recent collection areas, collectors, wholesalers and retailers to become MAC Certified (e.g., in Fiji, Europe and the US East Coast), as well as MAC Certifications scheduled for this year (including West Hawaii---the first ever US nearshore fishers to be certified)
- Development of the MAC Mariculture and Aquaculture Management Standard, which will certify captive bred organisms to complement the wild-caught certification programs MAC already operates.